COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, DC 20515

January 25, 2012

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Mr. Tim McCallion President, West Coast Verizon 112 Lakeview Canyon Road Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Dear Mr. McCallion:

I am writing on behalf of many constituents who have contacted my office with regard to Verizon's plans to develop a cell tower site in the Stonebrae community of Hayward, California. The residents of Hayward and I are concerned about the possible negative effects this cell site would have on the community in its proposed location. I respectfully request answers to the following questions:

- Is Verizon considering alternative sites for the cell tower with less negative impact on the community, and if not, why? Constituents note that the proposed site of the tower would drive down property values at a time of economic uncertainty, tarnish the aesthetics of the neighborhood, be in the eyesight of many homes and block views of the San Francisco Bay. Other cell sites have been constructed on the Hayward Hills behind the neighborhood without impacting property values or compromising safety.
- Has Verizon considered that the cell site will be placed in an area where children and families will be in close and continual proximity? Have there been any independent studies conducted regarding the safety of the proposed Stonebrae cell site? I understand that the site will be less than 400 meters from the Stonebrae Elementary School and homes. The Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) safety guidelines for radiofrequency radiation exposure have not been updated since 1997, and medical literature, including a study featured in the April 2004 International Journal of Cancer Prevention entitled 'Increased Incidence of Cancer Near a Cell-Phone Transmitter Station,' show that rates of cancer increase in communities with cell sites even when safety guidelines are followed. My constituents are concerned about the health and safety of their children.
- How much and what portions of the Stonebrae community will receive coverage through the cell site in its proposed location? Constituents state that the areas that will receive coverage through the site are largely non-residential, with the exception of the Stonebrae Country Club, while areas such as the fire station that is a half-mile away from the tower will remain in a dead zone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely, Sant